

• Abroad •

London. *Coexistence Plus*, a booklet by a member of Parliament, Christopher Mayhew, expanding a much discussed broadcast, seems likely to become the newest bible of British appeasers. Mr. Mayhew believes that "evidence of ideological apathy accumulates on both sides of the Iron Curtain"; and this he considers cause for basic optimism. He argues that the present conflict is comparable to the medieval crusades and the 16th-century wars of religion; that objectively it is already clear that "neither creed" is going to win the world; that it is time therefore for the West to declare an "ideology truce," and make a "firm, clear statement . . . of [its] own conception of coexistence."

Bonn. The German Government has announced that President de Gaulle will pay a ceremonial return visit early in September, to complete the symbols of Franco-German reconciliation that reached a double climax last month at Reims, when on the same day Adenauer and de Gaulle knelt together at High Mass in the cathedral, and together reviewed combined contingents of the new French and German armies. All political Europe is pondering the meaning of the reconciliation. Adenauer has described it as the building of a political dam against the pressure of Russian Communism. De Gaulle is believed to see it as the basis for a revival of French grandeur and a Europe strong enough to pursue a policy independent of both America and Russia. The European Left attacks it as a new Holy Alliance aiming to keep Europe "Catholic, capitalist and hierarchical." The European Right fears that it foreshadows European neutralism.

Zomba, Nyasaland. Dr. Hastings K. Banda, the political leader of Nyasaland, returning from what he describes as his final constitutional conference in London, expressed confidence that he would take Nyasaland out of the Rhodesian Federation into independence some time next year. Although Banda is an educated and cosmopolitan man—for 40 years, until 1958, he lived abroad—he finds it expedient to take on African trappings. The new nation will be called "Malawi," and Dr. Banda, rejecting British titles, prefers himself to be known as "Ngwazi the great Kamuzu." Like Kenneth Kaunda in Northern Rhodesia, the Kamuzu is strongly anti-Tshombe. He is under nationalist pressure to use Malawi's geographical position for operations against the Portuguese province of Mozambique, as the Congo has been used against Angola; but Banda has so far held back, from a prudent regard for the fact that his only outlet to the sea is the railroad that runs to the Mozambique port of Beira. The Land Rover (British jeep) in which he paraded on his return four years ago and again on his return three weeks ago from London has been declared "a national monument" by the Malawi Congress Party, which holds the local political monopoly.

Léopoldville. In spite of the long surface stalemate, the internal political situation in the Congo has of course not stood still. The authority of Cyrille Adoula and the central government has been gradually dissipating. A fragmentation of power has been going on—to some extent in Katanga also—with local military or political activists, many of them hitherto unknown, on their way up. In Adoula's cabinet, the two principal gainers are Cleophas Kamitatu, a Lumumbist and centralist who favors a pro-Soviet orientation, and Justin Bomboko, a federalist who has been moderately pro-Belgian in the past. Kimba and Godefroi Munungo are considered the strong men in Tshombe's cabinet. The Sureté has been building up its secret police apparatus, on the basis of which the power of its director, Victor Nendaka, who is generally out of sight, has become formidable. Although strongly opposed by Adoula, Kamitatu and President Kasavubu, a new plan for the partition of the Congo into western and eastern regions, both to become independent nations, has been making headway.



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"How the hell did the Romans ever get decadent on this stuff?"

Moscow. Observers here attach significance to de Gaulle's reported choice of Christian Fouchet as France's next ambassador to the Kremlin. Fouchet has always been extremely close to de Gaulle. He has just completed his critical task as French High Commissioner in Algeria for the transition to independence. He has a diplomatic background in Moscow (as First Secretary) and in Warsaw. It is generally assumed that his new assignment means that de Gaulle sees his policy as entering a new phase in which relations with the Soviet Union will be the orienting factor. This belief is strengthened by the fact that Soviet ambassador to France, Sergei Vinogradov, with whom de Gaulle has always been intimate, is returning to Paris after a four months' absence.

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